



Biography

Congressman John Boozman, a successful businessman and life-long resident of Arkansas, represents the Third District of Arkansas in Congress.

After graduating Northside High School in Fort Smith, Boozman played football at the University of Arkansas while completing his pre-optometry requirements. He graduated from the Southern College of Optometry in 1977 and entered private practice that same year as co-founder of Boozman-Hof Regional Eye Clinic, which has become a major provider of eye care to Northwest Arkansas.

Boozman has a lengthy history of community service. Prior to his election to Congress, he served two terms on the Rogers School Board, which is one of the largest school districts in the state. He established the low vision program at the Arkansas School for the Blind in Little Rock, and worked as a volunteer optometrist at an area clinic that provides medical services to low-income families.

As a former rancher, Boozman successfully raised Polled Hereford cattle that were competitive in the show ring, as well as in Bull Testing at Oklahoma State University.

Sworn in on November 28, 2001, Boozman was elected in a special election to replace Asa Hutchinson who resigned after accepting President George W. Bush's appointment to become Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration.

Boozman currently sits on the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee where he serves on three subcommittees: the Aviation Subcommittee; the Highways, Transit & Pipelines Subcommittee; and the Water Resources & Environment Subcommittee. Boozman is also a member of the House Veterans Affairs Committee and serves on the Health and Oversight & Investigations Subcommittees.

In January 2003, Boozman was named an Assistant Whip by House Majority Whip Roy Blunt. As a member of the Whip Team, Boozman will be responsible for helping the Majority Whip and Chief Deputy Majority Whip Eric Cantor find the votes necessary to pass critical legislation. Assistant whips take part in weekly leadership meetings to review pending legislation, map party strategy and round up votes.

Boozman was also named to the Speaker's Task Force for a Drug-Free America in 2003. The task force advises House Speaker Dennis Hastert on major drug policy issues and advocates common sense legislative solutions to our nation's illegal drug problem.

In May 2004, Rep. Boozman was appointed by the Speaker of the House to the House Policy Committee, the committee of key Republicans who vet issues and formulate legislation to address them. Through their hearings and meetings, committee members have an opportunity to address these issues before they go to the committees of jurisdiction. Many times, potential legislation is debated in the Policy Committee before it makes its way to the committees of jurisdiction and then eventually the House Floor for a vote. Boozman is a member of three Policy Committee Subcommittees: the Health Subcommittee; the National Security and Foreign Affairs Subcommittee; and the Subcommittee on Freedom, Civil Liberties and Human Rights.

Boozman is also a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Parliamentary Assembly (NATO PA), which is an inter-parliamentary organization of legislators from the 19 member countries of NATO and 20 associate countries. As a member of the NATO PA U.S. House of Representatives delegation, he has traveled to meet with his counterparts from other NATO countries to discuss the War on Terror, anti-drug efforts, trade and other issues of concern to our allies.

Boozman, 52, is married to the former Cathy Marley. The couple has three daughters.